

## DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

October 13, 2000

**TO:** K. Fortenberry, Technical Director

**FROM:** D. Grover, M. Sautman and S. Stokes, Hanford Site Representatives

**SUBJ:** Activity Report for the Week Ending October 13, 2000

Don Wille, Farid Bamdad, and Agit Gwal met with the spent nuclear fuel project representatives to resolve issues raised in the September 20, 2000 Board letter.

Spent Nuclear Fuel Project: The contractor operational readiness review (ORR) of the K-West Basin, Canister Storage Building (CSB), and Cask Transportation System (CTS) continued this week with remaining activities associated with demonstrations of the multi-canister overpack loading system (MLS). This activity was completed on 10/12/00 however, the operation resulted in a self-identified occurrence related to procedure non-compliance. This incident occurred after 16 hours of continuous operation involving the same crew. This should serve as a significant warning to contractor personnel of the need for adequate rest for operations personnel. Overall, the MLS equipment functioned well, the software issues that had caused the previous malfunction appropriately corrected. Additional prestart findings have likely been identified and are related to a lack of ALARA awareness associated with cask loadout activities, use of the automatic torquing tool (it did not adequately perform its designed task), and the use of equipment not qualified for irradiated fuel activities during demonstrations that would not perform as designed.

The contractor initiated the Cold Vacuum Drying Facility (CVDF) operational readiness review on 10/11/00. While performing the prerequisites for demonstrations, several procedural problems were identified as well as conduct of operations problems including a procedural violation leading to a reportable occurrence. The ORR is ongoing over the next week. (3-C)

Department of Energy - Richland Operations Office Integrated Safety Management. The site representative met with the new ISM implementation management team to discuss progress on the transition from the short term to longer term corrective actions. The new team is headed by Mr. Steve Veitenheimer formerly the division director for the Facility Representative Program. The focus of their activities to date have been team formulation development of the long term corrective action plan. The scope of their project is still being defined and will likely focus, at least initially, on the disposition of safety related requirements with the Richland Integrated Management system (RIMS) and the implementation of safety related procedures. Further discussions regarding the final project plan and progress being made to effect corrective actions was planned for early December 2000. (3-C)

cc: Board Members